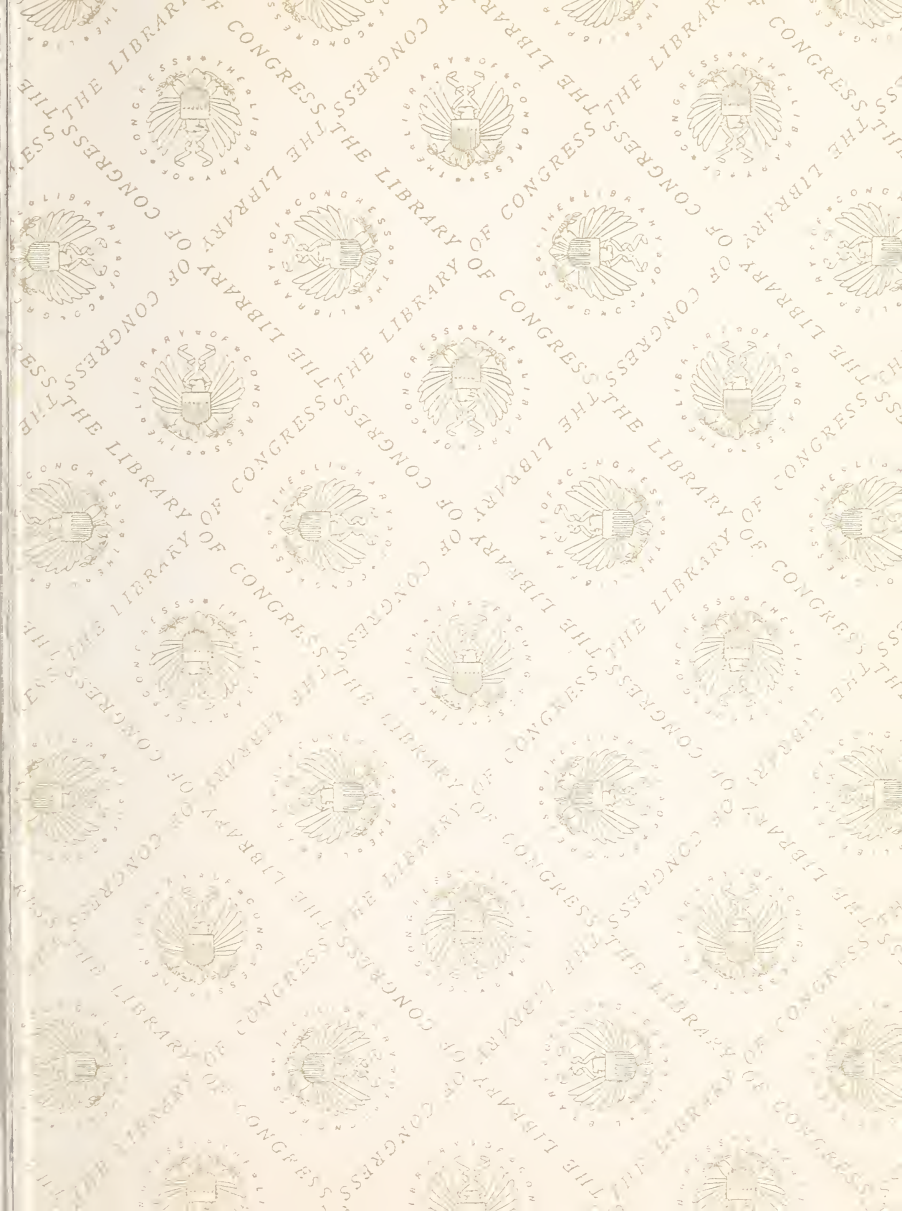


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BY

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of the Negro Race

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Compiled by
MITCHELL DAVIS

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218



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Daniel Murray,
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1925.

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NOTE—You'll do me a great injustice should you peruse this little book before reading the "FOREWORD."

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FOREWORD

Financial consideration is not to be thought of—no aim whatever for the collection of these one hundred quotations but for diffusion, among the rank and file, healthy thoughts of some of the "Worthwhiles" of the Negro Race.

The names of men and women found herein are a few of a galaxy who have been and are laboring now with much ardor for race efficiency in the various fields of useful endeavor.

Yours,

MITCHELL DAVIS

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3 May 1918

Through avalanches of prejudices; industrial barriers; professional intrigues; legal technicalities; diplomatic effronteries, and political buffetings, the American Negro has, at last arrived before the public eye, as a factor not easily to be evaded.

The Compiler.

RACES ARE JUDGED BY THEIR GREAT MEN

Every invention, art, religion, law and literature had its inception in some one man's mind; functioning in others whom he inspired.

Anonymous.

Do not repair another man's fence until you have seen to your own.

African Proverb.

Premature conclusions as to ability or fitness of an individual or race because of color or profile is an injustice to the Maker and Molder of the races of mankind.

The Compiler.

Of the antiquity of the Negro there can be no doubt. He is known as thoroughly to history as any of the other families of men. He appears at the first dawn of history, and has continued down to the present day.

GEO. W. WILLIAMS—*Student of History.*

KEEP APLUGGIN' AWAY.

If the hills are high before
And the paths are hard to climb,
Keep a-pluggin' away—
And remember that successes
Come to him who bides his time.

PAUL LAWRENCE DUNBAR—*Foremost Race Poet.*

To make men you need civilization;
And what do I mean by civilization is the action of
exalted forces, both of God and man.
For manhood is the most majestic thing in God's crea-
tion; and hence the demand for the very highest act in
the shaping and molding of human souls.

ALEXANDER CRUMMWELL.

Founder "The American Negro Academy"

No race that despises itself, that laughs at and ridicules itself, that wishes to God it were anything else but itself, can ever be a great people.

ROBERT RUSSA MOTON—*Organizer.*

Ignorance will lodge with any one who will give it a lodging.

C T. WALKER—*Able Preacher.*

So long as the Negroes' social status (and the word social is here used as applied to democracy) alternates between absolute segregation and the most secret and reluctantly accorded freedom, so long will he revel in and exploit that freedom in a way repulsive to those who never knew such restraints.

JAMES SAMUEL STEMONS—*Race Defender.*

As long as the black man is excluded from participation in the government of the nation, just so long will he be the victim of cruelty and outrage on the part of his white fellow-citizens, who assume lordship over him.

KELLY MILLER—*Author and Critic.*

Throughout history, the powers of single black men flash here and there like falling stars, and die sometimes before the world has rightly gauged their brightness.

W. E. BURGHART DU BOIS—*Author-Editor.*

Things to us are only as we remember them.

WM. H. DREWERY—*Teacher and Public Servant.*

I can scarcely restrain a smile when I hear a mulatto talking of race integrity or a quadroon dwelling upon race pride. What they mean is a very fine thing, but it is not at all what they say.

CHARLES W. CHESTNUT—*Scholar in Letters.*

I believe that justice in our dealings with our fellow-men is the first thing demanded of us by the human brotherhood. Nothing so quickly creates resentment in the social body as the belief that injustices are being meted out by men, each to the other.

ISSAC FISHER—*Teacher.*

Wherever a school is actually teaching boys and girls to do something that the community wants, it is seldom that that school fails to enlist the interest and co-operation of all the people in that community, whether they be black or white.

B. T. WASHINGTON—*Educator-Organizer.*

I sometimes think we're growing up
To be a wondrous people;
But yet, I fear, in building we're
Commencing with the steeple.
Without a basis broad and deep,
With virtue its foundation,
And truth and right as corner-stones
We cannot build a nation.
D. WEBSTER DAVIS—*Teacher and Lecturer.*

What a Negro will be depends entirely upon the attitude toward himself, as well as toward other people. He will be respected in proportion as he respects himself.

WILLIAM H. COUNCIL—*School Man.*

From the hoodooism of the African jungles and the "root doctrine" of the benighted Southern Slave plantations to the modern treatment of typhoid fever, the administration of salvarsan and the abdominal section, has been a long stride for the Negro physician. But this stride he has taken sometimes by plodding, sometimes by leaps and bounds, till he now occupies a position in the medical world that is recognized and respected.

JOHN A. KENNY—*Physician.*
("The Negro in Medicine.")

The best way to become a good teacher is, therefore, to become a good man or a good woman, and to grow in power to interest and influence young people. Such personality and power cannot be manufactured to order, but are slowly developed by much reading and thinking and doing and no little contact with wholesome people.

ROSCOE CONKLING BRUCE—*Educator*.

The dominance in recent years of the idea of purely practical education for Negroes has directed the means of philanthropists toward schools which emphasize industrial training.

BENJAMIN GRIFFITH BRAWLEY—*Author*.

The primary motive of the black man is not a desire for a mixed family, but for the protection of his own colored family. He believes that a law to compel fathers to marry the mothers would break up more miscegenation in a week than a law prohibiting marriage will break up in twenty-five years.

WILLIAM PICKENS—*Orator-Professor*.

Let sin, that baneful evil to the soul,

By you be shunned, nor once remit your guard;

Suppress the deadly serpent in its egg.

Ye blooming plants of human race divine,

An Ethiop tells you 'tis your greatest foe;

If length of residence, if unstinted oil, if great sacrifices of blood, if the laying of ones self on the country's altar in the hour of peril, of danger, give any claim to citizenship, then our claim is beyond dispute; for all these things are true of us.

F. J. GRIMKE—*Able Preacher*.

Its transient sweetness turns to endless pain,
And in immense perdition sinks the soul.

PHILLIS WHEATLEY—*Pioneer Race Poetess.*
("To the University of Cambridge in New England.")

Suspicion of the presence of a drop of African blood in the veins of a man, however able and distinguished, is a blight and mildew upon his life for American society.

FREDERICK DOUGLASS—*Pioneer Race Leader.*

Mentally speaking, the teacher must have a well disciplined mind, a breadth of vision, a scope of horizon, that comes only with a liberal education, and from personal contact with the affairs of life.

MRS. JOSEPHINE SILONE-YATES—*Leader of Women.*

The enfranchisement of the colored race sprang from the necessities of the nation.

P. B. S. PINCHBACK—*Pioneer of Reconstruction.*

It is cruel to make a teacher or preacher of a man who ought to be a printer or a blacksmith, and that is exactly the condition we are now obliged to submit to.

FANNY JACKSON COPPIN—*Friend to Women.*
("A Plea for Industrial Opportunity.")

I suppose that every boy and every girl, born in poverty, have felt at some time in their lives the weight of the world against them.

B. T. WASHINGTON.

If organization is good for white man in business and politics, it ought to be just as good for Negroes.

JOHN E. BRUCE—*Popular Writer.*

When the white race sees us organized in support of one another they will have greater respect for us. I lose respect for the individual who doubts the capacity of his people to do; that we cannot do as well as the whites.

FRED R. MOORE—*Editor*

When the "colored folks' religion" will have a tendency to make them brave rather than mold them cowards, thousands of people of my way of thinking will have more confidence in its efficacy as providing an unfailing transportation to Heaven.

JOHN MITCHELL, JR.—*Editor-Banker.*

All the Negro asks is that the door which rewards industry and thrift, intelligence and character in all other races in the South be left as wide open for him as for the foreigners, who are coming constantly to our shores. More than this, the Government which he has imperiled his life to save has no right to withhold.

DANIEL MURRAY—*Bookman*

A WISH.

There's naught that nature has in store
So lovely as a summer day;
There's naught that are with all its lore,
Can add to it or take away.

Ah, yes! the summer is to me
The loveliest season of the year,
And I truly wish your life may be
One cloudless day of summer clear.

SILAS X. FLOYD—*Humorist.*

In Puritan Massachusetts, a traffic in human beings was carried on for over a century. Thousands were sold; and the profits accruing from the sale of the Negroes in all parts of the country laid the foundation of the wealth of many an old Massachusetts family.

PAULINE E. HOPKINS—*Descriptive Writer.*

The gang spirit is a peculiar characteristic which early manifests itself in a boy's life. It is due to this fact probably that much of a boy's life is spent away from the home. Marbles, swimming, baseball and football are some of the outdoor sports enjoyed in youth that help to cement this spirit and lead to the formation of boys' gangs and clubs in which those strong ties of friendship are formed that draw young men away from home and to find their deepest pleasures among their male associates.

W. A. HUNTON—*Apostle to Young Men.*

Men desire material goods for three reasons:

First—To provide for the necessities of life.

Second—To secure the comforts of life.

Third—To gain ascendancy among and secure power over men.

WILLIAM H FERRIS—*Writer.*

We admit, however, that practically and not constitutionally, the color line has been drawn by the establishment of churches and schools for the "colored people," and the employment of missionaries, colporteurs, etc., to the colored people, which has resulted in the organization of associations and conventions by Negroes in more than half of the States of the Union.

E. C. MORRIS—*Baptist Leader.*

We have no chiding for critics who having eyes see only our worst; who having ears hear only our ignoble deeds; who having hearts never feel that sympathy which man should feel for fellowman.

W. T. VERNON—*Public Official.*

The denial of rights guaranteed the Negro by the Constitution and the refusal to grant him the ordinary privileges of a free man have created what is called the "Negro Problem"—the most prominent, the gravest and most important question in American affairs. I can see for the American people no permanent peace, no ease of conscience, until the Negro question is settled, and settled right.

ROBERT H. TERRELL—*Judicial Officer.*

But it has always seemed to be that the greatest crime of slavery was not its chains upon the limbs of men; but that in a Christian country, great and powerful, a people born on the soil were denied the highest inheritance of manhood—moral and intellectual culture.

EBENEZER D. BASSETT—*Public Servant*
(Speech Feb. 28, 1868.)

Negroes have colorphobia—some Negro men have it. Some Negro women have it. Whole families have it, and somebody tells us that some Negro churches have it. Savior, keep us from those churches, please. Some social circles have it, and so the disease is spreading from men to women, from women to families, from families to churches, and from churches to social circles.

"Not color, but character."

NANNIE H. BURROUGHS—*Organizer of Women.*

I have never believed for a moment that social equality could be brought about, even between persons of the same race. I have always believed that social distinctions existed among white people the same as among colored people.

HON. JOHN R. LYNCH—*Pioneer in Political Service.*

When the smoke of battle had dissolved into thin air; when the precious right to be free and sovereign had been stubbornly fought for and reluctantly conceded; when the bloody memories of Yorktown and New Orleans had passed into glorious history, the black man, who had assisted by his courage to establish the free and independent State of America, was doomed to sweat and groan that others might revel in idleness and luxury. Alured, in each instance, into the conflict for national independence by the hope held out of generous reward and an honest consideration of his manhood rights, he received as his portion chains and contempt.

T. THOMAS FORTUNE—*Journalist.*

The indispensable conditions of success in business, to limit ourselves to the most important are: a knowledge of the laws of business; business integrity, including the scrupulous keeping of one's word; self-reliance, appreciation of the value of time; responsiveness to public demands; taste in selecting good; subordination of accessories to essentials; ability to meet competition; ability to buy well; ability to sell well; ability to advertise well; willingness to work hard.

H. T. KEELING—*Editor-Scholar.*

Therefore I cannot think thee wholly gone,
The better part of thee is with us still;
Thy soul its hampering clay aside hath thrown
And only freer wrestles with the ill.

Thou livest in the life of all good things,
What words thou spok'st for freedom cannot die,
Thou sleepest not, for now thy love hath wings
To soar where hence thy hope could hardly fly.

Thou art not idle in thy higher sphere,
Thy spirit bends itself to loving tasks,
And strength to perfect what is dreamed of here,
Is all the crown of glory that it asks.

MARY CHURCH TERRELL—
Leader of Women and Lecturer.
("To Harriet Beecher Stowe.")

The number and success, therefore, of the lawyers
of any people in any community throw considerable
light upon the progress and prosperity of that
people.

GEORGE W. ELLIS—*Lawyer.*

Garrison made freedom possible, but that is not all
that he, or any other, could do. Freedom is not a
gift. With all the rhapsodies raised in praise and
honor of it, it is not a thing that can be handed out
and presented to one man by another. It is some-
thing that must be worked for, achieved each man
for himself. That is, in my opinion, the supreme
lesson we may learn from the life of Garrison, the
Liberator.

E. J. SCOTT—*Able Secretary.*

Through our geographies, histories and encyclopedias we have become familiar with representations of this so-called true Negro, whose chief characteristics were a black skin, wooly hair, protuberant lips and a receding forehead. Caricatures seized upon these characteristics and popularized them in cartoons, in songs and in other ways. There it happened that the Negro, through the descriptions that he got of himself, has come largely to believe in his inherent inferiority and that to attain superiority he must become like the white man in color, in achievement, and, in fact, along all lines.

MONROE U. WORK—*Social Statistician.*

It is not too much to that public opinion concerning the Negro in this country is largely based on ignorance of nearly everything that is good and prophetic in the life of the race. The status of the race is fixed by impoverished conditions of the majority and not by the noble achievements of the ever-increasing few.

FANNIE BARRIER WILLIAMS—*Popular Race Woman.*

Failure is a crown of sorrow,
Success a crown of fears—
From the book of life we borrow
Leaves to turn the years.

Art is but a joy divine,
God says yea or nay—
Love alone is worth the time,
Live it as we may.

W. S. BRAITHWAITE—*Prominent Poet.*

The man who puts color as the first requisite in his choice of an associate invariably gets nothing but color, but the man who puts character first always gets a woman.

The race is not half so bad off for women with whiter faces as it is for women with whiter souls.

NANNIE H. BURROUGHS.

For with the right to vote, the right to a voice in making laws, denied to any class of people in an industrial republic like ours, such a class must go from bad to worse in the struggle for bread, for existence, in competition with more favored classes.

ARCHIBALD H. GRIMKE—*Writer, Able Advocate.*

I see dark visioned countenances everywhere,
Walking in the paths of men erect and unafraid;
I see unwavering eyes look forth from ebony faces,
No longer mantled with an age-long grin,
But with a look of strong determination and resolve.
I see a day of God, and not a day of color or race,
In which men trace with pardonable pride the fading
rays

Of oriental sunshine in their veins.

I see, now near at hand, the opening day of the
darker races

Of mankind, in which

Americans of African descent stand forth among
the first Americans.

REVERDY C. RANSOM—*Editor.*

Every loyal race-loving Negro should take an active, personal interest in everything that concerns the welfare of our race in America.

MRS. MARY B. TALBERT—*Leader of Women.*

LINES TO CHARLES SUMNER.

Thank God that thou hast spoken
Words earnest, true and brave;
The lightning of thy lips did smite
The fetters of the slave.

I thought the shadows deepened
Round the pathway of the slave,
As one by one his faithful friends
Were dropping in the grave.

When other hands grew feeble
And loosed their hold on life,
Thy words rank like a clarion
For freedom's noble strife.

Thy words were not soft echoes,
Thy tones no siren song—
They fell as battleaxes
Upon our giant wrong.

God grant thy words of power
May fall as precious seeds
That yet shall leaf and blossom
In high and holy deeds.

FRANCES E. W. HARPER—*Poetess.*

The Haitians have not relapsed into a state of indolent and barbaric quietude, nor have there been wanting among them at any time bold leaders ready to take the initiative in any scheme which met their sanction.

T. G. STEWARD—*Professor of History.*
("The Haitian Revolution.")

From the inception of the Republic the Negro has been a valuable ally, not only in securing the independence of the Republic, but the augmentation of its power, its glory, its fame, and its honor.

D. AUGUSTUS STRAKER—*Able Lawyer.*

FAME.

Blest who to himself has kept
His creation, highest of the soul,
And from his fellows as from the grave
Expected not appreciation!

Blessed he who in silence sang,
And the crown of fame not wearing,
By mob despised and forgotten—
Forsaken, nameless—has the world!

Deceiver greater than dreams of hope.
What is fame? The adorer's whisper?
Or the boor's persecution,
Or the rapture of the fowl?

ALEXANDER POCCSHKIN—*Poet.*

The Negro is so interwoven with the growth and development of the American Nation that a history of him as an important element, during little more than a century of which he has been a factor, becomes a task of peculiar difficulty.

JOHN W. CROMWELL—*Author.*

In overthrowing me, you have overthrown only the trunk of the tree of Negro Liberty in St. Domingo. It will arise again from the roots, because they are many and have struck deep.

TOUSSIAINT L'DUVERTURE—*Hero.*

Had enfranchisement come into effect, as emancipation did, while the smoke of the war's last shot was still in the air, when force still ruled unquestioned and civil order and system had not yet superseded martial law, the agonies, the shame and the incalculable losses of the Reconstruction period that followed might have been spared the South and the Nation.

GEORGE W. CABLE—*Leader of Men.*
("The Negro Question.")

If Christianity is to be preserved among the cold-blooded Saxons, with all of its original warmth and faith and hope and imagination, the tropical Negro element must be brought in.

B. TUCKER TANNER—*Bishop, A. M. E. Church.*

Out of the myths of ages past,
Out of forgotten lore,
Out of the cannon's cruel blast,
Out of the waste and lore;
Out of the darkness and the din
Of many a battle fought,
We come to find our liberty
By true devotion bought.

CHARLES ALEXANDER—*Editor.*

The Negro has reached the point where the white man who seeks to help him must bring a good reputation. We are not prejudiced against you because you are white, but we must know that the man coming to us is of good repute among his own people.

REV. DR. R. H. BOYD,
Baptist Preacher and Publisher.

No eulogy, no biography, is necessary for my happiness either now or after I have joined the loved ones gone before. Give me rest and let me find my comfort and joy in a clean conscience and amidst a few loyal, congenial friends.

DR. LUCY E. MOTEN—*Teacher of Teachers.*

White men and black men exist only for convenience of classification.

The most elementary observer has discovered that neither black nor white exists in nature.

RICHARD T. GREENER—*Public Servant.*

It is a long way from a slave—a thing—to a man. Manhood and Godhood are very near together. The shading between the two is so slight that perhaps an angel can tell where one stops and the other begins.

W. H. BROOKS, D.D.—*Able Preacher.*

The martyrdom of Carrizal was the happiest stroke in the calendar of Negro achievement. The hour of racial reconciliation was brought nearer, the glory of man's brotherhood shone on that Mexican field as bright as the halo of a Christian saint.

FENTON JOHNSON—*Editor.*

In the events that lead to the achievements of American Independence, the Negro was not an uninitiated or unconcerned spectator. He bore his part bravely upon many battlefields, although, uncheered by that certain hope of political elevation which victory would secure to the white man.

HON. ROBERT BROWNE ELLIOTT—

Ex-Congressman, S. Carolina.

The naïve African, as a rule, is virtuous and honest. In their individual lives, free from the exciting influence of war, they have rules and customs governing their home life that are entirely in keeping with the highest state of Christian civilization.

LEVI J. COPPIN—*Bishop of the Church.*

UP! SING THE SONG.

I am a Negro, but I sing and sing,
Burning with kiss divine that made me so.
O brother mortal, likest to the snow,
Turn not in coldness from the song I bring,
But listen to my lyre's low murmuring,
When down the cypresses I sadly go,
Through deepening twilight, lest the faint winds
know.
The secret of some tender little thing
That haunts and haunts me, and they tell it all—
All, all my sorrows and ambitions, too !
For these o'ercome me; these thoughts dreaming
fall,
Keep calling, calling, beckoning, as to you;
"Up! Sing the song! Men shall forget your race,
Nor blush to keep the image of your face."

JAMES D. CORROTHERS—*Poet.*

It is impossible to picture the social conditions of the plantation colored women forty years ago, for she had no status except commodity—mind, soul and body were fettered. For her there was no light, there was no fellowship, there was no home, there were no maternal ties.

MRS. BOOKER T. WASHINGTON—
Organizer of Women.

It is true, in my opinion, that men brood over things at times which they would have exist until they delude themselves and actually sometimes honestly believe that such things do exist.

GEORGE W. WHITE—*Congressman, Banker.*

WHY.

The verdure sleeps in winter,
Awake with April rain,
The sun swings low—'tis night,—ascends,
And it is morn again.

The world spins on triumphant
Throughout a trackless sky,
And mortal man seeks all in vain
The primal reason—why?

O whither are we rushing?
And wherefrom were we torn?
We breathe from out the silences—
And breathless—back are borne!

Man through all ages past and now
Bows to the bone heart—cry,—
It took a God to make us,
And a God to answer—why?

G. DOUGLAS JOHNSON—*Select Poetess.*

Only the black woman can say “when and where I enter, in the quiet, undisputed dignity of my womanhood, without violence and without swing or special patronage, then and there the whole Negro race enters with me.”

ANNA JULIA COOPER—*Author.*

The greatest need of the Negro is conomic freedom, economic justice. That is all the best Negroes of this State ask. And it is indeed a high platform upon which to stand. It is not a bid for charity; it is not a bid for hostility. It is only to be permitted to enter American rivalry, to go down if incompetent, to die out if weak, to go up if capable.

R. R. WRIGHT, JR.—*Editor*.

("The Negro in Pennsylvania.")

The effort to enlighten them that they might be emancipated, to enjoy the political rights given white men, failed to meet with success in those sections where slaves were found in large numbers. Feeling that the body politic, as conceived by Locke and Montesquieu, did not include the slaves, many citizens opposed their education on the ground that their mental improvement was inconsistent with their position as persons held to service.

CARTER G. WOODSON—*Student of History*.

("The Education of the Negro Prior to 1861.")

The logical conclusion of our birthright and of our proclaimed and perfected equality before the law is that we shall remain, and remaining, strive with equal advantages with our white fellow-citizens for our own good and the nation's welfare.

JOHN MERCER LANGSTON—*Pioneer Race Leader*.

Be sure you know what you are going to say before you speak; know what you are going to talk about when you speak, so as you won't have to back up or take back what you have said, and you will always be on the safe side of the controversy.

W. H. LEWIS—*Able Lawyer*.

Into this vast yet specific field of scientific industry the colored man has, contrary to the belief of many, made his entry, and has brought to his work in it that same degree of patient inquisitiveness, plodding industry and painstaking experiment that has so richly rewarded others in the same line of endeavor, namely, the endeavor both to create new things and to effect such new combinations of old things as will adapt them to new uses.

HENRY E. BAKER—*Asst. Examiner, U. S. Patent Office.*
("The Colored Inventor.")

So often hast thou to thy bosom pressed
The golden head, the face and brow of snow,
So often has it 'gainst thy broad, dark breast
Lain, set off like a quickened cameo.
Thou simple soul, as cuddlin that babe
With thy sweet croon, so plaintive and so wild,
Came ne'er the thought to thee, swift like a stab,
That it some day might crush thine own black
child!

JAMES WELDON JOHNSON—*Pleasing Poet.*
("The Black Mammy.")

The word "kindness" which implies one of the noblest traits of human nature, when applied to a Negro means simply that his treatment shall not be so harsh as to cause people who are yet included in the category of decent to wince and protest.

LAFAYETTE M. HERSHAW—*Civil Servant.*

People, as a rule, are lynched because the mob believes that it can be done quickly and without danger or fear of future punishment.

JOHN MITCHELL, JR.

We look abroad and afar for great moments, and great moments pass unheeded each hour: Life is essentially a dramatic thing, but I sometimes think we miss the drama and poetry of everyday life because it seems so commonplace.

ALICE MOORE DUNBAR—*Compiler and Writer.*

It is hardly possible for the Negro Race to experience any greater difficulties and obstacles in the future than it has already experienced in the past. It has overcome every obstacle with heroic courage—from slavery to the present period of its marvelous success—without discounting the human efforts of the race; it has accomplished all of this by an heroic faith in God and in the justice and righteousness of His character as practiced by our ancestors in the days of their bitterest affliction—when weakness characterized the arm of flesh.

ERNEST LYON—*Pioneer Race Defender.*

Until we had the Negro church we had nothing of which the race could boast. We early discovered that it was religious rights which first opened our eyes to all our rights, but until we were secure in the enjoyment of our religious liberty we were not fully aroused to the importance and value of civil liberty. We had not learned that they were twin blessings often dearly bought, but of inestimable value.

JOHN C. DANCY—*Public Official.*

The African and the Jew are the spiritual races, and to them political ascendancy among the nations of the earth is not promised.

EDWARD WILMOT BLYDEN—*Diplomat-Scholar.*

The Negro lawyer is no longer an experiment. He has been severely tried from within and without, and he has proved his worth. His place in our economy is fixed. The Negro Race is probably today in greater need of consecrated lawyers than it is of pious priests.

W. A. HAWKINS—*Capable Lawyer.*

Young men, be masters of yourselves. The world needs you.

JAMES E. SHEPARD—*Teacher.*

The untutored savage and the most highly cultivated intellect of all the ages stand equally mute in the presence of this ever-inviting, this ever-recurring question, What is life? Plato has reasoned, Darwin has investigated, Tyndall has experimented; yet the answer that comes back to our inquiry is but the faintest reverberation of the echo, What is life?

W. H. CROGMAS—*Teacher-Defender.*

If to achieve greatness is to win the hearts of one's youthful companions, one's associates in professional life, and to merit confidence and genuine love of a nation to the extent of securing its greatest honors and to perform the mightiest work of a century, then Abraham Lincoln achieved greatness.

ALEXANDER WALTERS—*Bishop and Leader.*

There is no creature so low and contemptible as he who does not seek first the approval of his own conscience and his God; for, after all, how poor is human recognition when you and your God are aware of your inward integrity of soul?

R. R. MOTEN.

Hail, smiling morn, that from the Orient main
Ascending dost adorn the heav'nly plain!
So rich, so various are thy beauteous dyes
That spread through all the circuit of the skies
That, full of thee, my soul in rapture soars,
And thy great God, the cause of all, adores;
O'er being infinite his love extends,
His wisdom rules them and his pow'r defends.
PHILLIS WHEATLEY.

Can disfranchisement settle the question for the Negro? I do not think it can. I am sure it will not, for the simple and sufficient reason that the Negro will not consent to such a settlement—a settlement which virtually decitizenizes him, and relegates him to a condition of practical servitude in the republic. He has tasted freedom, he has tasted manhood rights, he has tasted civil and political equality.

ARCHIBALD H. GRIMKE.
("Why Disfranchisement Is Bad.")

Ye daughters of a long down-trodden race,
Rouse ye to action bold, and do not dread
To meet thy dreary task, thy burden great,
May well alarm, yet God did give,
He will not strength withhold from those
Who bravely bear their load.

D. WEBSTER DAVIS.

The Negro confronts destiny. He must be the architect of his own fortune. He must demonstrate capacity and independence, because mendicancy is always destructive. The living present calls us away from the ashes of the dead and buried past.

JAMES MADISON VANCE—*Popular Race Man.*

In extending ordinary courtesies due every man to every woman, the white man has not allowed his manhood to go beyond his race. That is a mighty poor manhood after all. A man who is truly a gentleman respects a woman, not because she is white or black, as the case may be, but because she is a woman, and he has been early taught that there is a certain amount of respect due every woman.

NANNIE H. BURROUGHS.

God has given unto America the duty and privilege of nourishing the principle of true democracy and of transmitting it pure and undefiled to the ages yet to be great; indeed, will be the condemnation of this people if it proves faithless to its trust and permits the arrogance of race and the evanescent easement of the hour to frustrate its high commission for mankind.

KELLY MILLER.

It is the misfortune of men of African descent to be heavily shadowed by a cloud, and they must wait to have it dispelled before they can be properly seen, either by themselves or by others.

FREDERICK DOUGLASS.

Impartial suffrage cannot mean "black supremacy" in America, but would mean healthier self-government by giving the Negro here and there a better chance to speak for himself and locally to defend his nearest and dearest interests.

We have found that the way for us to reach success and respect is through finance.

JOHN MITCHELL, JR.

It is difficult to find a writer on ethnology, ethnography or egyptology who doubts the antiquity of the Negro as a distinct people.

GEO. W. WILLIAMS.

When Yankee teachers made their way to the dilapidated villages of the South to open Negro schools, they were thought to be on a "fool's errand." The Negroes' "thick skull, low forehead, small brain capacity," provoked mingled pity and contempt. Pseudo scientists proclaimed with categorical certainty that the Negro could not learn; and because he could not learn, many States stultified themselves by passing laws that he should not learn.

LEWIS B. MOORE—*Teacher of Teachers.*

In breaking faith with Toussaint La'Ouverture and starving him to death, Napoleon Bonaparte wrote for himself one of the blackest pages in the black history of his career.

T. THOMAS FORTUNE.

WILLIAM PICKENS.

Nations have reached their highest and best development, not by isolation, but by taking advantage of whatever good they found among others.

LEVI J. COPPINS.

Scandals in the best colored society are exceedingly rare, while the progressive game of divorce and remarriage is practically unknown.

The intellectual progress of colored women has been marvelous.

MARY CHURCH TERRELL.

I believe in a manhood suffrage, that in some way and what other way is possible except by the ballot? Every sane man, not in prison, who contributes by his labor to the wealth of the community, should have a voice in the selection of those who make and administer the laws.

CHARLES W. CHESTNUT.

It is the competition for the labor of yellow, brown and black folk that is the cause of the present world war. Other causes have been glibly given and other contributing causes there doubtless are, but they are subsidiary to this, subordinate to this vast quest of the dark world's wealth and toil.

W. E. BURGHARDT DUBOIS.

There are many kinds of strength, but brute or physical strength is not to be regarded a desirable attribute of greatness either in a nation or an individual. For it is said and truly, "He poureth contempt upon princes and weakeneth the strength of the mighty."

JOHN E. BRUCE.

So far has wrong, and injustice, and oppression gone that the Negro is now outside of the humane and kindly regard of a majority of the white race in the United States.

L. M. HERSHAW.

Emancipated to cripple the South and enfranchised to strengthen the North, the colored race was freed and its people made citizens in the interests of the Republic.

P. B. S. PINCHBACK.

Among American prejudices there are none more unfortunate than that against agricultural life.

MRS. JOSEPHINE B. BRUCE—*Leader of Women.*

With the widening of men's vision they must realize that the basis of true democracy and human brotherhood is the common origin and destiny of the human race; that we are all born alike, and die alike; that the laws of man's existence make absolutely no distinction.

WILLIAM H. LEWIS.

WEEP NOT.

Weep not, friend, o'er your condition;
He who tries can find a way;
Labor, and to God petition,
Strive, and you will rise some day.

Let your steps be sure and steady,
Push ahead and never stop;
Though the field seems filled already,
There is room still at the top.

If you wish to climb life's ladder,
Start to climb it from the ground;
If great your strength it makes it sadder
To have to climb it round by round.

JAMES E. MCGIRT—*Lyric Poet.*

Visible manifestations of thought and idea have ever marked the purposes of men. Monuments and cities but express precurent objects.

GEO. WILLIAM COOK—*University Secretary.*

The Negro teacher holds the key to Negro elevation.

LEWIS B. MOORE.

The old slave oligarchy maintained its ascendancy largely by fixing a gulf between the Negro slave and the white free laborer, and the jealousies and animosities of the slave period have survived to keep apart the Negro and the laboring white man.

J. MILTON WALDRON—*Able Preacher.*

All honor to Abraham Lincoln, the performer, not the preacher; the friend of humanity, the friend of the North, the friend of the South, the friend of the white man, the friend of the black man; the man whose heart, like the Christ's, was large enough to bring within the range of its sensibilities every human being beneath the stars.

JAMES L. CURTIS—*Minister to Liberia.*

Slavery is snatching man from the high places to which he was lifted by the hand of God and dragging him down to the level of the brute creation, where he is made to be the companion of the horse and the fellow of the ox.

HENRY HIGHLAND GARNET—
Pioneer Bishop of the Church.

WE WEAR THE MASK.

We wear the mask that grins and lies,
It hides our cheeks and shades our eyes,—
This debt we pay to human gile;
With torn and bleeding hearts we smile,
And mouth the myriad subtleties,

Why should the world be over-wise
In counting all our tears and sighs?
Nay, let them only see us, while
We wear the mask.

We smile, but, O great Christ, our cries
To Thee from tortured soul arise;
We sing, but, oh, the day is vile
Beneath our feet, and long the mile;
But let the world dream otherwise—
We wear the mask!

PAUL LAWRENCE DUNBAR.





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